



CDS

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HEADER

R 041325Z NOV 91

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SERIAL: (U) [REDACTED]

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

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BODY

COUNTRY: (U) PORTUGAL (PO); SOUTH AFRICA (SF);
MOZAMBIQUE (MZ); ITALY (IT).

SUBJ: [REDACTED] PERSPECTIVES ON SOUTHERN AFRICA

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EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 911000.

(b)(1);(b)(3):10
USC 424;1.4 (c)

1. ~~(CAN)~~ SOUTH AFRICA.

A. ~~(CAN)~~ THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA
CLEARLY BELIEVES THAT A POLITICAL ACCOMMODATION CAN BE
REACHED AND IS THEREFORE PURSUING POLITICAL CHANGE AT A
RATHER FAST PACE. THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN SOUTH
AFRICA IS MORE POSITIVE, MORE OPTIMISTIC THAN IS
GENERALLY BELIEVED AND SOME FORM OF FEDERAL POLITICAL
SYSTEM WILL PROBABLY BE ESTABLISHED. THE BLACK ON BLACK
PROBLEMS IN SOUTH AFRICA ARE BEING GENERATED BY THE
"LOST GENERATION" OF 1976. THE INKHATHA CAN GENERALLY
CONTROL ITS FOLLOWERS, BUT AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

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LEADER, NELSON ((MANDELA)) HAS BEEN UNABLE TO CONTROL HIS GROUP OF "LOST GENERATION" FOLLOWERS. MANDELA'S SPOUSE, WINNIE ((MANDELA)) IS TIED TO THIS GROUP AND SHE HAS SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE OVER HER HUSBAND. SOUTH AFRICAN AUTHORITIES SAW THIS DURING NEGOTIATIONS, WHEN NELSON MANDELA WOULD PRELIMINARILY AGREE TO CERTAIN POINTS WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND THEN RETURN THE FOLLOWING DAY, AFTER DISCUSSING SOME PARTICULAR POINT WITH HIS SPOUSE, HAVING CHANGED HIS MIND. SHE IS A NEGATIVE INFLUENCE ON EVENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA. THE SOUTH AFRICAN DEFENSE FORCE (SADF), THOUGH CONSERVATIVE, WILL HAVE NO SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM IN ACCEPTING POLITICAL ACCOMMODATION. IN THE RANKS OF THE SADF, THERE IS ALREADY SOME ACCOMMODATION TAKING PLACE, WITH THE ASSIGNMENT OF WHITES, BLACKS AND COLOREDS TO POSITIONS BASED ON MERIT. EVEN SHOULD FREE AND OPEN ELECTIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA RESULT IN A BLACK MAJORITY GOVERNMENT, THE SADF WILL GO ALONG WITH IT. THAT IS NOT TO SAY THAT SOME WHITE OFFICERS MAY NOT SIMPLY DECIDE TO RETIRE FROM THE SADF VERSUS CONTINUE TO SERVE UNDER SUCH A GOVERNMENT. THE ONLY CIRCUMSTANCE WHICH COULD CAUSE A SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM IN THE SADF WOULD BE IF A BLACK MAJORITY GOVERNMENT WERE TO DECIDE TO PLACE CRONIES IN HIGH POSITIONS, CRONIES WHO WERE CLEARLY UNQUALIFIED FOR THOSE POSITIONS. IN ANY CASE, A POLITICAL ACCOMMODATION CAN BE REACHED BY WHICH WRITTEN GUARANTEES WILL BE ACCEPTED TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF ALL MINORITIES, TO INCLUDE WHITES. THE TRUE TEST WILL BE OF COURSE WHETHER THOSE WRITTEN GUARANTEES ILL BE HONORED IN ACTION. THERE ARE RISKS AND DIFFICULT TIME AHEAD, BUT SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE NOWHERE ELSE TO GO. SOUTH AFRICA'S BIGGEST MISTAKE IN THE PAST WAS TO MAKE APARTHEID A LAW.

(b)(1);1.4 (c)

SOUTH AFRICAN AUTHORITIES ARE HAVING A DIFFICULT TIME IN UNDERSTANDING THE CONTINUING CYCLE OF BLACK ON BLACK VIOLENCE. PROVOCATIVE ACTIONS BY WHITE EXTREMIST S IN SOUTH AFRICA ARE POTENTIALLY VERY DANGEROUS TO THE POLITICAL CLIMATE AND SOUTH AFRICAN AUTHORITIES ARE KEEPING A WATCH ON WHITE EXTREMIST GROUPS.

Non
Responsive

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